

Torrance Herald

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The Young Think They're Wise But Only the Aged Are Seers

EVERY generation, no matter how paltry its character, thinks itself much wiser than the one immediately preceding it, let alone those that are remote. It is just the same with the different periods of a man's life.

In the years of physical growth, when our powers of mind and our stores of knowledge are receiving daily additions, it becomes a habit to look down with contempt upon yesterday, as has been said. The habit takes root, and remains even after the intellectual powers have begun to decline—when today should rather look up with respect to yesterday.

This is the place for Schopenhauer's observation that, although in its main qualities a man's intellect or head, as well as his character or heart, is innate, yet the former is by no means so unalterable in its nature as the latter.

"The fact is that the intellect is subject to very many transformations, which as a rule do not fail to make their actual appearance; and this is so, partly because the intellect has a deep foundation in the physique, and partly because the material with which it deals is given in experience."

And so we find that if a man has any peculiar strength, it first gradually increases in strength until it reaches its acme, after which it enters upon a path of slow decadence, until it ends in imbecility.

But on the other hand, as Schopenhauer points out, we must not lose sight of the fact that the material which gives employment to a man's powers and keeps them in activity—the subject matter of thought and knowledge, experience, intellectual attainments, and the practice of seeing to the bottom of things, that is, a perfect mental vision, form in themselves a mass which continues to increase in size, until the time comes when weakness shows itself, and the man's powers suddenly fail.

The way in which these two distinguishable elements combine in the same nature—the one absolutely unalterable, and the other subject to change in two directions opposed to each other—explains the variety of mental attitude and dissimilarity of value which attach to a man at different periods of life.

"A complete and adequate notion of life can never be attained by anyone who does not reach old age," observes Schopenhauer, "for it is only the old man who sees life whole and knows its natural course; it is only he who is acquainted—and this is most important—not only with its entrance, like the rest of mankind, but with its exit, too; so that he alone has a full sense of its utter vanity; while the others never cease to labor under the false notion that everything will come right in the end."

Chemistry King of Future Some Great Experiments

THE greatest optimism toward mankind's hope of improvement is a chemist, Dr. Edwin E. Slosson, editor of "Science Service," formerly professor of chemistry and an author of scientific books for the lay reader, including the widely read "Creative Chemistry." It is he who believes the chemist is well on the way to control our physical make-up. He said recently:

"Comparatively recent study has shown that every living creature, from microbe to man, owe their growth and health to the action of chemical compounds. This places chemistry in the forefront as the hope of medicine. We soon will pay less attention to giving people big doses internally than we do to putting into their blood streams chemicals in extremely minute amount which will affect the very composition of their beings. Result of Experiments

Here is the argument from which this position is taken:

"Experiments with plants and lower animals have proven the extraordinary effect which minute chemical doses can produce. For instance, a little magnesium chloride in the water will cause a fish to grow one eye in the middle of his forehead instead of two on the sides. A bit of sugar will cause plant lice to grow wings—and alcohol will have the opposite effect. All this smacks of the ancient lore of mythology, where giants and dwarfs, the one-eyed cyclops and beasts of many heads, abound; but while these may not be advisable aims to work for, the modern monsters created in the laboratory may be a first step by which the chemists will eventually learn to mould the stature, sex and powers of human beings as easily as the sculptor moulds his clay.

"For we know that there are compounds which may benefit human life as much as other chemical compositions such as alcohol and heroin have contributed to man's unhappiness. There are minute things in us called hormones, which one scientist has named 'chemical messengers.' It is a modern theory that these hormones control personality. That is, a man is gay, vivacious or sullen and stogy because of the peculiar condition of the hormones working in him. These are definite chemical substances, and it is not too much to expect that some day the chemist will be able to increase the potency of a person's hormones as today he does the potency of dyes and drugs."

AFFAIRS of the HEART

By Mrs. Thompson

TIME FOR DIVORCE

Dear Mr. Thompson: I am a young lady of eighteen. I have a 14-month-old baby. My husband left me two months ago and he also left me when our son was only five weeks old. At that time he stayed away seven months. He does not support me nor our son. I work and keep him with me. Now I am going with a nice boy who is twenty-four years old and tells me he loves me and has from the first time he saw me. The nights he isn't with me he is with some one else, but he says when he is with me hours go like minutes. He loves my baby too. He gives me money. Do you think if he didn't love me he would? He tells me he will get me a divorce if I will only stay with him. He was supposed to come to see me on Wednesday but he told me he went hunting and didn't get back in time. I called him and talked to him and he made a date for Thursday night. I waited until 8 o'clock and he did not come. Then I went to a show and he came while I was away. He said he helped his friend move. I believe him, but everybody tells me I am a fool. My parents tell me to drop him, but I love him dearly. You are certainly justified in wanting a divorce from your husband and I would advise you to start court proceedings against him at once. I think, however, that you are placing too much faith in the other man's love for you. If he cared as much as you hope he does, he would not want to be with other women. Do not accept money from him. It places you under distressing obligations and endangers his respect for you. Manage some how so that you will not have to take his money.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: I am a young woman of twenty-two years. About a year and a half ago my first husband and I separated and were divorced. Now my first husband has my little four-year-old girl. Will I ever get her? My sister's husband bought a horse from me and they owe me \$75 on it yet. Will I ever get it? I am married now to a man forty-six years old and we get along just fine. When I got married my father turned me down and told me never to come back in his yard again. What can I do to make him treat me like a daughter? A. O. F.

If your husband was given custody of the child, you will not be able to take her away from him unless you have another hearing and the decision is in your favor. In case custody of you was given someone else, you will be given time to give her up when your time comes to have her. Get a lawyer to collect the money. Very likely he will be able to do so. Write your father and tell him how happy you are and that all you lack in your happiness is his recognition of your marriage and his fatherly love. Ask him to forget about the past and because you are father and daughter let you return home.

"HOPELESSLY IN LOVE" Dear Mrs. Thompson: For the past six months I have been hopelessly in love with a young man. There is another girl in this city who loves him and goes with him. I don't know whether he likes me or not. Please tell me how I could win his love. ANXIOUS.

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LADY OF QUALITY IS THE STAR OF NEW PHOTOPLAY



Virginia Valli earned a starring contract with Universal Co. by her work in "The Lady of Quality" and "The Signal Tower." Her next picture will be "Up the Ladder," adapted from Owen Davis' stage play.

Do not try to win the young man's love, it wouldn't be fair to the other girl. Besides, your efforts might be humiliating to you.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: Is a marriage legal if one swears that one is twelve years younger than one really is? I saw in a paper recently that it wasn't. Can you get a divorce on such grounds? WORRIED.

When a minor swears to be of age or older, the marriage is not legal.

HIS LAST WORDS

She had just returned from the barber-shop, where she had exchanged her heavy tresses for a single.

"I simply could not stand the weight of all that hair on my head another day," she explained to her angry husband.

"I always thought your head was weak," was his only comment.

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HOW'S YOUR HEALTH?

By Dr. W. F. Thompson

Wise—that teacher Who appreciates What fresh air means— And ventilates.

The automobile has annihilated both distance and pedestrian.

Too often, in the past, the oyster cocktail was a typhoid cocktail.

While keeping the home fires burning, let us not forget to keep the home atmospheres moist.

Oh, the little red stove In the little red school; The windows were down; And colds were the rule.

He'll live to win full many a fight who sleeps beneath the stars at night.

Let's not deceive ourselves about being "threatened with pneumonia." Pneumonia makes no threats.

There is vicarious motherhood when the pampered poodle is the recipient of human mother love.

You merchant wields a wicked broom, Sending patrons to their doom; Filling nostrils with his dust And consumers with disgust.

Combating brain fog by taking "nerve stimulants" is like whipping a tired horse.

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